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Executive Registry

86- 3711X

Director
Intelligence Community Staff
Washington, D.C. 20505

AUG 12 1986

NOTE FOR: DCI

VIA: DDCI

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Study Report--National Space
Transportation and Support (STAS) Study

1. Attached is a package of information on the Space Transportation and Support study (STAS study). This has been a joint DoD-NASA activity, but NSSD 6-85 directed that the DCI coordinate on the response and we have done so on your behalf.

2. As noted in the package, the study did not accomplish as much as we would have liked and follow-on activity is needed. The joint follow-on activity is the key point of the transmittal memo. Pete Aldridge has been the prime mover on the transmittal and he has been pressing to complete this action for the past month or so.

25X1

E. A. Burkhalter, Jr.
Vice Admiral, USN

Attachments:

As stated

Upon removal of Attachments and
Caveats this note is UNCLASSIFIED

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DCI
EXEC
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NSSD-6-85

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7 August 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Intelligence Community Staff

VIA: Acting Director, Planning and Policy Staff *DMG*25X1 FROM: Deputy Director for Policy
Planning and Policy Staff25X1 SUBJECT: Transmittal of Study Report--National Space Transportation
and Support (STAS) Study 25X1 REFERENCE: NSSD 6-85, dated 14 May 1986, Subject: National Space
Transportation and Support Study 25X1 1. Action Requested: That you sign the attached memorandum of
coordination to the Secretary of Defense. (Attachment A) 25X1 2. Background: The attached package containing the STAS summary report
and transmittal memorandum (see Attachment B) has been received for DCI
coordination. NSSD 6-85 (see reference) directed the DoD and NASA to jointly
conduct the subject study. It also directed that:

- "DoD will represent the interests of the Director of Central Intelligence during the course of the study."
- "The report will be reviewed by the Secretary of Defense, the Director of Central Intelligence, and the Administrator of NASA and then forwarded to the Senior Interagency Group for Space and review. Based upon its review, the SIG (Space) will make recommendations to the President, as appropriate."

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25X1 SUBJECT: Transmittal of Study Report--National Space Transportation
and Support (STAS) Study []

25X1 The study was executed by a joint task team co-directed by DoD (USAF Space Division) and NASA (Langley Research Center). A Joint Steering Group consisting of DoD and NASA officials provided guidance. Mr. Aldridge was one of the Co-Chairmen of the Steering Group; there was no other DCI representative or observer on the Steering Group. The task team based its efforts on four parallel multimillion dollar contracts competitively issued to major aerospace company teams []

25X1 The summary report, prepared by the Joint Steering Group, was completed in May 1986. Preparation of the transmittal memorandum has been delayed because of differing views on the appropriate next steps. []

3. Discussion: The STAS study has obtained a mixed reception at the DoD working level. Deficiencies identified by various individuals include:

- Overstated mission models.
- Inadequate justification for conclusions on cost-savings and reusability.
- Lack of focus in the technology plans.
- Failure to explicitly address the evolution from the currently planned Titan 4 and medium ELV programs to the next generation.


25X1 In addition, as the debate on Shuttle recovery progressed, it became apparent that funds for recovery would have priority and there would be very little left for the ambitious technology efforts that were being recommended. At the same time, it also became apparent that it was important to move ahead on technology and study efforts that would support decisions on the next generation of space launch systems. []

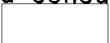
25X1 We agree with many of the above criticisms of the STAS study and agree that follow-on efforts will be required. The proposed transmittal memorandum calls for follow-on study and planning activities without explicitly committing to immediate increases in the technology funding. Further, it keeps the initiative for such activities with NASA and DoD. We believe that this approach is realistic and prudent, and consistent with DCI interests.

25X1 NRO Staff concurs. []

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and Support (STAS) Study 

25X1 4. Recommendation: That you concur in the proposed transmittal letter by
signing the attached memorandum. 



25X1 Attachments: (2)

- A. Memo for SecDef fm D/ICS (C)
- B. DoD Staffing Package: (C)
 - Memo for SecDef fm ASD/C³I
 - Memo for Asst to President
for Natl Sec Affairs
 - Space Transportation and Support
Study Report

25X1



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25X1 SUBJECT: Transmittal of Study Report--National Space Transportation
and Support (STAS) Study [redacted]

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25X1 DCI/ICS/PPS [redacted] : (7Aug86)

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